



U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
District of Kansas

## NEWS RELEASE

Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney

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**Contact: Kena Rice**

(316) 269-6481

**Headquarters**

1200 Epic Center  
301 N. Main  
Wichita, Kansas 67202  
(316)269-6481  
FAX (316)269-6484

**Topeka Office**

444 Quincy  
Topeka, Kansas 66683

**Kansas City Office**

500 State Avenue  
Suite 360  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

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### MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Darnell Lamont Tyree**, 23, Topeka, Kansas, entered a guilty plea today before U.S. District Judge Julie A. Robinson to one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Melgren said that Tyree admitted at his plea that on March 28, 2003, Topeka police officers responded to the report of a shooting in the 1300 block of East 21<sup>st</sup> Street in Topeka, Kansas, and found Tyree in his vehicle in the area. Tyree further admitted that he had shot at another vehicle and that he tossed the firearm he used in the shooting before officers arrived. A Topeka police officer found the firearm at the scene. Tyree also admitted that in 1999 he had been convicted of a felony, aggravated battery, in Shawnee County District Court.

Tyree faces a maximum of ten years in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for August 20, 2004, at 9:00 a.m.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Topeka Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Greg Hough in this prosecution.